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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION FROM
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

COUNTRY Albania
 SUBJECT Economic - Mining
 HOW PUBLISHED Daily newspaper
 WHERE PUBLISHED Tirana
 DATE PUBLISHED 25, 26 June 1949
 LANGUAGE Albanian

DATE DIS. 9 Aug 1949

NO. OF PAGES 1

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

STAT

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SOURCE Bashkimi

COAL AND CHROMITE MINES IN OPERATION

NEW COAL MINE NOW PRODUCING -- Bashkimi, No 1404, 25 Jun 49

Preliminary work at the new Memaliaj - Tepelene coal mine has been in progress for 2 years. Coal deposits have been cleared, galleries have been prepared, roads have been laid out, and workers' housing built. Thus far, the mine has not had a production plan because it has been considered under exploration. In spite of difficult working and living conditions and a labor force below the figure provided in the plan, results have been good.

The mine has now begun large-scale production. The Two-Year Plan calls for a great increase in coal production from this mine.

The Ministry of Industry is considering the question of transporting coal from the mine by main automobile road. In the past, only draft animals have been used to transport what little coal has been mined there. As this is wasteful of time, expensive, and not very efficient, construction began recently on a ropeway to transport coal from the mine.

CHROMITE MINES BEGIN PRODUCTION -- Bashkimi, No 1406, 28 Jun 49

Work is continuing in the Pogradec chromite district, where old galleries are being restored, and some of the pits have begun production.

There are three mines in this district, at Monlight, Katiel, and Fickhash.

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